GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:290
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Procurement of Pulses and Oilseeds
Chowdhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agricultural items/crops for which the Government announces or proposes to announce Minimum Support Price;
(b) whether Food Corporation of India and other Government agencies procure only wheat and rice and make arrangement to keep them in buffer stock and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and
(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to procure pulses and oilseeds and keep them in buffer stock like wheat and rice taking into account their high prices and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a) Minimum support prices (MSP) is announced by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India (GOI) at the beginning of the sowing season for crops on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).
The twenty three (23) crops for which MSP has been announced are Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Arhar, Moong, Urad, Groundnut-in-shell, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Nigerseed, Cotton, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Masur (Lentil), Rapeseed/Mustardseed, Safflower, Jute, Copra and sugarcane. In addition, MSP for Toria and De-Husked coconut is also fixed on the basis of MSPs of Rapeseed/Mustardseed and Copra respectively.
(b) & (c): No Madam, Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government agencies procure wheat and rice, coarse grain & Pulses.
Govt. of India has included FCI as a Central Nodal Agency along with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) for Procurement of pulses & oilseeds. Government of India has set a target of procuring 50,000 ton of pulses from Kharif crop 2015-16 and 1,00,000 ton pulses of Rabi crop in RMS 2016-17.
All the procuring agencies taken together have procured 45532.41 MT Tur and 4891.66 MT Urad in KMS 2015-16, thus achieving the target.
In Rabi 2016-17, FCI, NAFED & SFAC have together procured 8555.75 MT of Masur & 60401.11 MT of Chana as on 10.07.2016.
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